

FOUND DEAD.

The body of Dr. C. E. Hesman was found on Mono Lake Divide (Inyo County), September 24, 1909, murdered. Anyone having seen him prior to the above date will please notify the Norcross Investment Company, Room 89, Bacon Bldg., Oakland, Calif.

PELLAGRA.

Dr. J. F. Siler, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, and Chief of Department of Tropical Medicine in the New York Post Graduate Medical School, has been sent to Peoria, Ill., to investigate the recent outbreak of Pellagra.

THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEPROSY, HELD IN BERGEN, NORWAY, AUG. 16-19, 1909.

In the Public Health Reports for September 17th appears the report of Passed Assistant Surgeon Donald H. Currie, of the U. S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, on the Second International Conference on Leprosy, held in Bergen, Norway, August 16-19, 1909. Dr. Currie was one of the official delegates representing the United States at the conference. In his report he states that the following enumeration gives the distribution of leprosy throughout the world as obtained from the reports of the official delegates, and from data furnished by the Norwegian government:

	* Cases.
France	246
Iceland	200
Germany	28
Roumania	208
Servia	3
Bulgaria	9
European Turkey	550
Greece	9
Crete	600
Russia	1,372
Italy	123
Spain	240
Palestine	800
India	97,340
Ceylon	589
Indo-China	10,500
Java	15,000
Borneo	68
Sumatra	896
Japan	40,000
Canada	20
Cuba	1,297
Jamaica	115
United States of Colombia.....	4,152
Argentine Republic	12,000
Algeria (in 26 years).....	109
United States of America:	
Mainland of America.....	146
Hawaiian Islands	764
Porto Rico	17
Guam	19
Philippine Islands	2,330
Canal Zone	7

A brief review of the more important papers read at the conference is given. Dr. Ehlers, of Copenhagen, who recently made a visit to this country, presented the preliminary report of the Danish-French commission for the study of leprosy, the title of his paper being "The Transmission of Leprosy by Suctorial Insects."

The conference adopted the following resolutions:

* Approximate.

A.

I. The Second International Scientific Conference on Leprosy confirms in every respect the resolutions adopted by the First International Conference of Berlin, 1897.

Leprosy is a disease which is contagious from person to person, whatever may be the method by which this contagion is effected. Every country, in whatever latitude it is situated, is within the range of possible infection by leprosy, and may, therefore, usefully undertake measures to protect itself.

II. In view of the success obtained in Germany, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden, it is desirable that other countries should isolate lepers.

III. It is desirable that the children of lepers should be separated from their parents as soon as possible, and that they should remain under observation.

IV. An examination should be made from time to time of those having lived with lepers by a doctor having special knowledge.

It is desirable that lepers should not engage in certain trades or occupations.

All leper vagabonds and beggars should be strictly isolated.

B.

V. All theories on etiology and the mode of propagation of leprosy should be carefully examined to ascertain if they accord with our knowledge of the nature and biology of the bacillus of leprosy.

VI. The clinical study of leprosy induces the belief that it is not incurable. We do not at present possess a certain cure. It is desirable, therefore, to continue the search for a specific remedy with the greatest zeal.

The International Leprosy Conference, held in Berlin in 1897, arrived at the following conclusions: Every leper is a danger to those around him, the danger varying according to the nature and extent of his relations to others and also to the sanitary conditions under which he lives. Among those living in an insanitary manner, every leper is especially dangerous to his family and fellow-workers. The theory of the heredity of leprosy is becoming less probable, and the contagiousness of the disease is generally accepted. The following resolutions were formally adopted:

1. In countries in which leprosy forms foci or has a great extension, isolation is the best means of preventing the spread of the disease.

2. The system of obligatory notification and of observation and isolation, as carried out in Norway, is recommended to all nations with local self-government and a sufficient number of physicians.

3. It should be left to the legal authorities, after consultation with the medical authorities, to take such measures as are applicable to the special social conditions of the districts.

ITEMS FROM THE MARINE HOSPITAL SERVICE.

Surgeon Rupert Blue, who has had charge of plague preventive measures in California for the past thirty months, has been granted a four-months leave of absence in order that he may go abroad for purposes of study and research. During his temporary absence Passed Assistant Surgeon George W. McCoy will have charge of the epidemic operations of the Service, being assisted by Passed Assistant Surgeon W. C. Rucker, Assistant Surgeon F. Simpson and Acting Assistant Surgeon George Converse.

It is reported that two plague squirrels were found in the foothills back of Berkeley on January 11th.